



Fall 2025 Programs

Museum Hours

Walk-Ins are welcome!

Tuesday – Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Sunday 12 p.m. to 4 p.m.

The Museum is closed on Mondays

Holiday Hours

Closed Nov 27 Thanksgiving Day

Christmas Eve: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Closed Christmas Day

New Year's Eve: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Closed New Year's Day

Receive up-to-date info on programs and exhibits, shop online, and sign-up for Museum e-news at lizzadromuseum.org

Museum Memberships and Museum Rental information available on our website and at the Reception desk.



1220 Kensington Road, Oak Brook, Illinois 60523
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ARTS
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The Lizzadro Museum of Lapidary Art
acknowledges support from the Illinois Arts Council.

Admission

\$10.00 Adults, \$8.00 Seniors

\$5 Students, Teenagers, Children 7-12

Free for children under 7 yrs.

Wednesday is Free Day.

Members of the Lizzadro Museum and active duty members of the Armed Forces are admitted free of charge any day the Museum is open to the public.

Accessibility

The Museum has facilities to provide access for physically disabled visitors.

Volunteering

Volunteering forms are available online.



@lizzadromuseum



The Lizzadro Museum Free Day
is partially sponsored by:



**Wealth
Management**



Special Exhibit Opens October 19

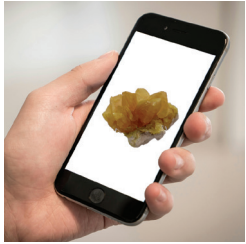
The Hidden Gems in Cellphones

Your cellphone is a treasure chest containing over 65 minerals! These minerals play a variety of vital roles – often within the same device. Formed by the earth, then discovered by miners and processed by hundreds of hands, minerals make your phone possible. This special exhibit opens up our phones to reveal the hidden gems in your pocket!

Regular Museum Admission – Regular Museum Hours

Lizzadro Museum Programs

October through December 2025



Sunday October 19 **Unveiling the Hidden Gems: Exhibit Tour and Mingle**

See your cellphone in a whole new way with our latest Special Exhibit: The Hidden Gems in Cellphones. This exhibit features the hidden gems and minerals that provide the elements that enable the modern world – including specimens from the Smithsonian Institution. Join us for a short presentation on how the exhibit came together, followed by a brief guided tour. At 2:30, we invite you to attend a Museum Mingle – a casual reception where you can connect with fellow visitors and Museum staff. Light refreshments will be served.

Presentation/Tour – 2:00 PM Reception – 2:30 p.m. – 90-minutes total

All Ages Welcome – Regular Museum Admission – Museum Members Free

Reservations Recommended



Saturday October 25 & November 15 **West Suburban Lapidary Club Meetings**

Curious about the craft of cutting and polishing stones? Join the West Suburban Lapidary Club (WSLC) for monthly meetings at the Museum, where you'll explore the fascinating world of lapidary art! Each session includes presentations and expert guidance on transforming rough stones into polished masterpieces. Check the Museum's digital newsletter for details on upcoming programs.

Club Meeting at 1:00 p.m., Program at 2:00 p.m. – 60-minutes

Teens to Adults Welcome – Regular Admission – Museum Members Free

Reservations Recommended



Sunday October 26 **Community Music Program: Toe Tapping Polka**

Oktoberfest is ending, but that doesn't mean the music has to! Join us for some rousing polka music by acclaimed musicians Marek Kalinowski (accordion) and Peter Herz (violin). Their musical stylings will be sure to get you toe tapping and hand clapping! Extend the festive spirit! This lively concert promises to be an engaging and memorable experience.

Performance – 2:00 p.m. – 60-minutes – All Ages Welcome

Fee: \$20 per Person – Museum Members \$5

Reservations Required



Saturday November 1 **Geode Skulls: A Day of the Dead Celebration**

Geodes are one of the most fascinating phenomena in the gem world. In this hands-on workshop, we will be turning skulls into geodes, a perfect addition to your Day of the Dead celebration or save for next year's Halloween! Each participant will design and create their very own plastic skull, complete with tiny crystals! All materials included.

Workshop – 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Teens and Adults – Children 8 to 12 must partner with an adult (1 kit per partnership)

Fee: \$20 per person – 10% off for Museum Members

Reservations Recommended



Saturday November 8 **Lapidary Day**

Celebrate the fascinating world of lapidary arts with live demonstrations by artists from the West Suburban Lapidary Club. Watch as stones are cut, polished, wire-wrapped, carved, and transformed through silversmithing and beadstringing. Enjoy hands-on activities for kids and discover the creativity and craftsmanship behind these beautiful art forms. Fun for all ages!

10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. – On-going Demonstrations/Activities – All Ages Welcome

Free Admission Day – No Reservations Required



Saturday November 22 & December 13 Rock & Mineral Identification Class

Join geologist Sara Kurth for a hands-on rock and mineral identification class. Learn to classify minerals using observation and hardness testing. Perfect for curious rock-hounds or scouts working on Earth Science badges, this class will deepen your understanding of earth science and teach you to identify rocks and minerals like a pro!

10:30 a.m. – 75-minutes – Ages 8 yrs. & up – \$10 per person – Museum Members Free
Reservations Required



Saturday November 22 & December 13 Rockin' Jewelry for Kids

Unleash your creativity in this fun, hands-on jewelry-making workshop! Design your own unique gemstone creations—including a necklace, a keychain, and a pin. All materials are provided. Afterward, explore the Museum and enjoy a fun scavenger hunt. This workshop is the perfect way to delve into the world of stone jewelry.

1:30 p.m. – 45-minutes – Ages 8 yrs. & up – \$15 per person – Museum Members 10% off
Reservations Required



Sunday November 23 Community Music Program: Spirito Singers presents *Welcome, Yule!*

Get into the holiday spirit with Spirito Singers' Bravura ensemble as they sing a program of music that celebrates the season. Featuring talented high school singers from across the Chicagoland area, Bravura will shine in a program that includes holiday favorites new and old. Spirito Singers inspires young women to be leaders through music education, performance excellence, and service to our communities. The elite Bravura ensemble has appeared on stages around the world. This fall, they toured to Los Angeles, California, where they performed onstage at Disneyland and elsewhere

Performance – 2:00 p.m. – 60-minutes – All Ages Welcome

Fee: \$20 per Person – Museum Members \$5

Reservations Required



Saturday December 6 Create a Gem Tree

Join the artists of *In A Twist* to learn how to craft beautiful miniature trees using sparkling gemstones and wire. If you can count, you can create! These fun, hands-on sessions are perfect for all ages. You'll leave with a one-of-a-kind gemstone tree that never needs watering and makes a meaningful, handmade gift or keepsake.

10:30 a.m. & 1:30 p.m. – Ages 5 years to Adult

3:30 p.m. session is for Teens and Adults ONLY

All Sessions Fee: \$20 per person – \$15 Museum Members

Limited Capacity – Reservations Required



REGISTER ONLINE!

To learn more and/or purchase tickets for upcoming programs and events, please scan the QR code or visit lizzadromuseum.org/calendar



Holiday Sale



November 22nd through December 7th

Museum Members receive

20% off purchases!

Field Trip Assistance Grant



Applications for the **Field Trip Assistance Grant** are now available online at lizzadromuseum.org/field-trip-assistance or scan the QR code. This program will cover transportation costs for eligible schools in the Chicagoland area. Wintrust Bank is providing funding for eligible Title 1 schools and a Museum Board Member is sponsoring field trips for schools of the Diocese of Joliet.

Interested teachers and school districts should reach out to our Educator, Sara Kurth at educator@lizzadromuseum.org using the Subject Line: Field Trip Assistance Grant.

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From Magma to Mobile: How Rare Earths Shape Our Tech



From smartphones to satellites, Rare Earth Elements (REEs) power our world, yet their unfamiliar names and symbols can make them seem mysterious. Despite the term “rare,” a 2010 report estimated that REEs are more abundant in the Earth’s crust than commonly mined metals like copper and zinc. They are not “rare” because they cannot be found, but because they rarely occur in high enough concentrations to be mined economically. Geological processes start the refining process, and we finish the job.

At the atomic level, REEs are larger and heavier than similar elements, which prevents them from fitting into the crystal structures of common minerals as magma cools, so REEs are among the last elements to be incorporated into minerals. Think of magma as a crowded party – the common guests (elements like silicon, oxygen, and aluminum) group up early, and REEs wait to dance until they can find elements like sodium, calcium and potassium. This process is nature’s way of concentrating REEs — a process that continues even after the rocks reach the surface.

Once at the surface, they may occur in mineable concentrations. If not, erosion breaks down these rocks over time, and rain and wind transport the mineral fragments. Their larger atomic sizes influence where these sediments settle – often in clays or placer deposits with concentrations of REEs high enough to be considered valuable. Even so, extracting usable REEs from these deposits remains a complex, costly, and sometimes environmentally challenging process. The real rarity lies in the mining, processing, and distribution – not the elements themselves.

REEs make up only about 4% of your cellphone – roughly 1/8th of an ounce – but without them, your phone would go dark. BUZZ! You got a like! That’s neodymium vibrating. Snapping a selfie? Lanthanum is behind that pic. Even the colors on your screen owe their brilliance to europium and terbium. Our tech-driven world depends on REE-bearing minerals. Discover the mineral magic driving your devices in our Special Exhibit: “The Hidden Gems of Cellphones”, which reveals the minerals behind the screen and the elements that power your digital life. The Exhibit opens Sunday October 19th. Join us for a tour and mingle at 2 p.m. Light refreshments will be available.



Bastnäsite, a common REE-bearing mineral, on loan from Smithsonian Institution

References

Gómez, Moisés, et al. 2023, Critical and strategic metals in mobile phones: A detailed characterization of multigenerational waste mobile phones and the economic drivers for recovery of metal value: Journal of Cleaner Production, vol. 419, p. 138099, Available at <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jclepro.2023.138099>.

Long, K.R., Van Gosen, B.S., Foley, N.K., and Cordier, Daniel, 2010, The principal rare earth elements deposits of the United States—A summary of domestic deposits and a global perspective: U.S. Geological Survey Scientific Investigations Report 2010–5220, 96 p. Available at <http://pubs.usgs.gov/sir/2010/5220/>.

Van Gosen, B.S., et al. 2014, The Rare-Earth Elements—Vital to Modern Technologies and Lifestyles: USGS Mineral Resource Program, Fact Sheet 2014 –307, <http://dx.doi.org/10.3133/fs20143078>.